

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 171525

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

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EXDIS-HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR SECDEF

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

1. JORDAN: AS SAUDIS OPEN THE PURSE, HUSSEIN CLOSES THE
DOOR

AMBASSADOR PORTER SAYS THE SAUDIS ARE READY TO PROVIDE JOR-
DAN WITH MORE THAN \$500 MILLION FOR AN AMERICAN AIR DEFENSE
SYSTEM. ROYAL COUNSELOR ADHAM SAID THERE MAY BE AN OUTRIGHT
GRANT OF OVER \$300 MILLION, ACCCOMPANIED BY CONCESSIONARY
LOANS EXCEEDING \$200 MILLION.

KING HUSSEIN, MEANWHILE, TOLD NEWSWEEK THAT THE SOVIETS HAD
OFFERED HIM A "MORE FLEXIBLE" SYSTEM AT 60 PER CENT OF THE
HAWK PRICE, AND THAT THE HAWK DEAL WAS "DEAD" UNLESS THE US
COULD COME UP WITH A BETTER PRICE. HE ADMITTED, HOWEVER,
THAT THE SOVIETS DEMANDED CASH ON DELIVERY, AND THAT HE
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 171525

STILL HAD A FINANCING PROBLEM.

AMBASSADOR'S COMMENT: I KNOW THE DEPARTMENT WILL DO EVERY-
THING POSSIBLE TO ENSURE THAT, IF AND WHEN THE SAUDIS PRO-
DUCE THEIR \$500 MILLION OFFER, HUSSEIN WILL ACCEPT IT. FOR
JORDAN TO REJECT IT OR QUibble ABOUT YET ANOTHER OFFER
WOULD HAVE EFFECTS WE NEED NOT DESCRIBE. (SECRET) JIDDA
4810 (EXDIS), 7/11.)

2. ZAIRE: DIVINING MOBUTU'S FUTURE

ZAIRE'S CONTINUING ECONOMIC CRISIS HAS, IN EMBASSY KIN-
SHASA'S ESTIMATION, ERODED PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR MOBUTU'S
REGIME AND DIMINISHED CONFIDENCE IN HIS LEADERSHIP. THE
EMBASSY EXPLAINS:

--MOBUTU HAS TRIED TO MINIMIZE ADVERSE POLITICAL
REACTION BY MOVING SLOWLY ON DIFFICULT REFORMS.

--IN SO DOING, HOWEVER, HE RISKS PROLONGING THE ECO-
NOMIC CRISIS AND THUS CREATING EVEN GREATER POLITI-
CAL PROBLEMS LATER ON.

--DESPITE HIS WEAKENED POSITION, THE PRESIDENT FACES
NO SERIOUS ORGANIZED OPPOSITION AND SEEMS RELATIVELY
SECURE FOR NOW.

EMBASSY COMMENT: IN THE LONG RUN WE FORESEE FURTHER EROSION
OF MOBUTU'S POSITION IF ECONOMIC DETERIORATION PERSISTS.
ZAIRE'S ECONOMIC PROBLEMS ARE SO GREAT THAT, EVEN WITH FOR-
EIGN ASSISTANCE AND DEBT RELIEF, HE WILL HAVE TO CARRY OUT
DIFFICULT REFORMS. TO DO SO, HE WILL NEED TO ASSERT MORE
EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP THAN HE HAS SHOWN IN RECENT MONTHS.
(SECRET) KINSHASA 5843 (LIMDIS), 7/10.)

3. LIBYA: THE BLACKENED EYE OF THE TERRORIST STORM

EMBASSY TRIPOLI NOTES WITH FOREBODING THAT ISRAEL'S DEFEAT
OF THE LIBYAN-BACKED TERRORISTS AT ENTEBBE CAME ON THE
HEELS OF NUMEROUS OTHER SETBACKS FOR QADHAFI, INCLUDING:

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 171525

--NUMEIRI'S CHARGES BEFORE THE OAU OF LIBYAN CULPA-
BILITY IN LAST WEEK'S COUP ATTEMPT;

--PRIME MINISTER JALLUD'S FAILURE TO PLAY AN EFFEC-
TIVE ROLE IN LEBANON; AND

--THE COLONEL'S FORCED RETREAT FROM HIS PROPAGANDA
WAR AGAINST EGYPT AND TUNISIA.

AS EVIDENCE THAT QADHAFI WILL MOST LIKELY VENT HIS SPLEEN
OVER ALL THIS, THE EMBASSY:

--REPORTS THAT A MOOD OF ANGER, HUMILIATION AND RAGE
PREVAILS AT HIS "AZZIZA BARRACKS" HEADQUARTERS; AND

--POINTS TO A QADHAFI-APPROVED EDITORIAL CALLING FOR
HARSHER TREATMENT OF HOSTAGES IN TERRORIST INCIDENTS.
EMBASSY COMMENT: FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF THE EYE OF THE
TERRORIST STORM, WE SUSPECT THAT THIS LATEST FAILURE WILL
LEAD QADHAFI TO SPONSOR SOME SPECTACULAR TERRORIST INCI-
DENT AGAINST AN ISRAELI TARGET IN THE NEAR FUTURE. (SECRET)
TRIPOLI 942 (LIMDIS), 7/11.)

4. NUMEIRI COUNSELS THE DIRG

THE SUDANESE AMBASSADOR TO YEMEN TOLD EMBASSY SANA JULY 10:

--NUMEIRI HAS MADE IT CLEAR TO THE ETHIOPIAN GOVERN-
MENT THAT HE BELIEVES THE ERITREANS SHOULD ACCEPT THE
DIRG'S OFFER OF AUTONOMY.

--THE SUDAN HAS PURSUED A POLICY OF STRICT NON-INTER-
FERENCE IN ERITREAN AFFAIRS.

--NUMEIRI NEVERTHELESS TOLD THE ETHIOPIANS HE WILL
"RESERVE HIS RIGHTS AND OPTIONS" SHOULD THE CONFLICT
GENERATE A TIDE OF REFUGEES INTO THE SUDAN. (CONFIDENTIAL) SANA 2377, 7/11.)

5. LEBANON: IRAQI ASSISTANCE VIA CAIRO

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PAGE 04 STATE 171525

USINT BAGHDAD HAS LEARNED FROM SEVERAL SOURCES THAT IRAQ
HAS SENT SUBSTANTIAL MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO PALESTINIANS
IN LEBANON VIA EGYPT. THE INTERESTS SECTION ELABORATES:

--THE IRAQIS REPORTEDLY AGREED TO SEND ASSISTANCE TO
ARAFAT DURING HIS JUNE 18-21 VISIT.

--IT IS UNCLEAR WHETHER IRAQI AID HAS INCLUDED TROOPS.

--THE EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR IN BAGHDAD CONFIRMED TO
USINT THAT SUBSTANTIAL SHIPMENTS HAVE OCCURRED, BUT
ALLEGES THAT THE OPERATION IS OVER AND DENIES KNOW-
LEDGE OF THE NATURE OF THE ASSISTANCE. (SECRET)
BAGHDAD 939, 7/10.) KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MORNING SUMMARY
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 JUL 1976
Decapton Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decapton Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE171525
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: O: RATIGAN
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760267-0786
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760767/aaaachex.tel
Line Count: 168
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SSO
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 30 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <30 MAR 2004 by GarlanWA>; APPROVED <08 OCT 2004 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS
TAGS: PFOR, MASS, EFIN, PGOV, PINS, US, JO, SA, UR, CG, LY, SU, ET, IZ, LE, (MOBUTU SESE SEKO), (NUMEIRI, JA'FA MUHAMMAD)
To: JCS MULTIPLE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006